

**TELECONFERENCE
EXAMINING BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS,
HYDROLOGISTS AND SOIL SCIENTISTS
MINUTES
MADISON, WISCONSIN
MEETING
FEBRUARY 16, 2000**

PRESENT: David Mickelson and Thomas Evans in person; Joan Underwood, Stephen Donohue, Tracy Benzal, Fred Birts, Wayne Lindgren, Herbert Garn, Robert Karnauskas and Patrick McGuire

EXCUSED: E. Jerry Tyler, Roger Hall

STAFF PRESENT: Becky Fry; Alfred Hall and William Black, Legal Counsel for portions of the meeting

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:14 a.m., by Joan Underwood, Chair. A quorum of ten members was present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: Fred Birts moved, seconded by Herbert Garn, to approve the agenda, as published. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (11/18/99)

MOTION: Tracy Benzal moved, seconded by Herbert Garn, to approve the minutes, as written. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Bureau Director's Report

Alfred Hall informed the Board that an updated roster and list of future meeting dates will be included in future agenda packets.

- **Section Roster**

Noted.

- **Code Book**

Noted.

- **Regulatory Digest**

Alfred Hall explained to the Board that the Regulatory Digest will be an on-going project. He indicated that any information any Board members felt would be helpful could be included in future issues of the digest.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

MOTION: Robert Karnauskas moved, seconded by Fred Birts, to nominate and re-elect Joan Underwood as Chair. Motion carried with Joan Underwood abstaining.

MOTION: Thomas Evans moved, seconded by Herbert Garn, to nominate and re-elect Stephen Donohue as Vice Chair. Motion carried with Stephen Donohue abstaining.

MOTION: Stephen Donohue moved, seconded by Robert Karnauskas, to nominate and re-elect Patrick McGuire as Secretary. Motion carried with Patrick McGuire abstaining.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

99 SB 347 Relating to Registration of Wetland Scientists

Robert Karnauskas and Herbert Garn explained to the Board, concerns brought up at the February 10, 2000 Professional Hydrology Section meeting.

The Board discussed the scope of practice and certification requirements for registration of Wetland Scientists.

The Board was concerned with the experience requirements and educational background for individuals becoming registered as wetland scientists. The Board also expressed concern with the enforcement of wetland scientists once they are registered with the Department.

William Black addressed the issue of the control and enforcement mechanism of the profession. He indicated that the wetland scientists would be registered with the Department of Regulation and Licensing and would come under the authority of the Secretary of the Department for scope of practice, with the advice of an Advisory Committee composed of individuals from within that profession. He further indicated that if a registered wetland scientist were working outside of the scope of practice, the Department could file an administrative injunction against that person.

The Board requested that Alfred Hall and William Black draft a letter on behalf of the Board, to be reviewed by Joan Underwood and Stephen Donohue, identifying specific Board concerns relating to the definition of a wetland scientist and the activities relating to wetland monitoring, wetland assessment and the design of projects to restore wetlands.

Upon the request of Alfred Hall, Joan Underwood and Stephen Donohue, along with Herbert Garn, as an alternate, would be available for a Senate and/or Assembly hearing on this issue.

William Black recommended the Board research the scope of practice for a wetland scientist and the education background necessary to perform those tasks.

The Board agreed to form a working committee to compile a table relating to wetland scientist activities of concern and the related educational background necessary to perform those activities. Patrick McGuire and Herbert Garn volunteered to gather information and along with Stephen Donohue, hold a teleconference meeting on March 7, 2000, to bring their ideas together. This information will then be distributed to the members of the Joint Board.

MOTION: Robert Karnauskas moved, seconded by Stephen Donohue, to set up a working committee meeting teleconference for March 7, 2000 at 9:30 a.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Proposed Rules Relating to Examination Requirements

Alfred Hall informed the Board that a Public Hearing needed to be scheduled regarding the proposed rules relating to examination requirements.

MOTION: Stephen Donohue moved, seconded by Fred Birts, to schedule the public hearing as part of the April 18, 2000, Soil Scientist Section meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

SUCH OTHER ITEMS AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW

None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Herbert Garn moved, seconded by Stephen Donohue, to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.